

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

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號三月二十日五十八年一千八百五十二英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1885.

日七月十年西乙

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

1885

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—E. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOCH, Indigo Circus, E.C. BATES & BLINDE, & Co., 37, Walbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMAND PINEDE & Co., 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORON & GOCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAVILE & Co., Square, Singapore. O. HEINRICH & Co., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, F. A. DE CROZ, S. S. CHIN, QUEIRAS & Co., Amoy, Ningpo, &c. & Co. F. A. DE CROZ, S. S. CHIN, QUEIRAS & Co., Amoy, Ningpo, & Co. SHAWHILL, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and Kelly & Wilson, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & Co.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-IN CAPITAL.....\$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND.....\$4,500,000
RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION.....\$500,000
OF DIVIDENDS.....\$500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETEES.....\$7,500,000

Court of Directors.

Chairman—Hon. K. D. SAUNDON.
Deputy Chairman—A. M. McIVER, Esq.
O. D. BOTTOMLEY, M. GROTH, Esq.
H. HOPKINS, Esq.
H. L. DAILEYMPLE, H. W. KEEWICK,
Esq.
A. P. MCLEWEN, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq.
E. E. SANSON, Esq.

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq.
Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
London Banker—London and County Bank.

Hongkong.

INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. "
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

Local Bills Discounted.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Deposits granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, August 24, 1885. 1449

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL.....£2,000,000
PAID-UP.....£500,000

REGISTERED OFFICE,

40, Threadneedle Street, London.

BRANCHES:

In India, China, Japan and the Colonies.

THE BANK ANSWERS Money on Deposit, buys and sells Bills of Exchange; issues Letters of Credit; forwards Bills for Collection, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

CLAIMS ON THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION PURCHASED ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.

H. A. HERBERT,

Manager,
Hongkong Branch.
Hongkong, July 4, 1885. 1128

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250, at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least two years about the beginning of January and the beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank, if marked on Hongkong Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.
Hongkong, May 7, 1885. 754

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Underwriters having been appointed Agents for the above Company are prepared to Grant Policies on MARINE RISK to all parts of the World, at current

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Hongkong, November 5, 1885. 695

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

DURING my temporary Absence from Hongkong, Mr. GEORG HERMANN ADOLPH BUGROW will act as MANAGER of THE MEDICAL HALL.

EMIL NIEDHARDT,
Proprietor.

Hongkong, November 28, 1885. 5009

NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS of BROWN, JONES & Co. (Undertaken, 6 Queen's Road East), hitherto carried on by me, is now under the management of E. L. STAINFIELD, who will continue to be conducted by me under the same firm name.

A PROBATION and COMMISSION AGENCY has also opened to be conducted under the Name of STRINGER & Co.

H. L. STRINGER.

Hongkong, November 6, 1885. 1937

NOTICE.

M. CHARLES ALEXANDER TOMES is Admitted a PARTNER in our Firm in Hongkong, China, and elsewhere from this date.

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, December 1, 1885. 2083

Intimations.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Conway, 40 cents.

O. D. BOTTOMLEY, M. GROTH, Esq.

H. HOPKINS, Esq.

H. L. DAILEYMPLE, H. W. KEEWICK, Esq.

A. P. MCLEWEN, Esq.

W. H. FORBES, Esq.

E. E. SANSON, Esq.

At the same Moderate Charge.

Hongkong, June 9, 1885. 207

In the Matter of the Estate of the late WILLIAM CATHERALL SYDER, Master of the S.S. "Greyhound."

THE Undersigned hereby gives Notice that he has been Appointed AGENT of the above Company at this port.

CHAS. D. HARMAN.

Hongkong, December 2, 1885. 2090

OCIDENTAL & ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

At the same Moderate Charge.

Hongkong, June 9, 1885. 207

SLINGS AND ARROWS, by Hugh CONWAY, 40 cents.

At What Oost, by Hugh Conway, 40 cents.

THE BOY'S OWN ANNUAL 1886.

"The Girl's Own Annual 1886."

Brookside's "Every Boy's Annual 1886."

"Chatterbox Volume 1886."

"Infant's Magazine Volume 1886."

"Norwegian Pictures in Pen and Pencil."

"Gulliver's Travels,"—Edition de Luxe.

"The Leopard Shakespeare"—Magnificently bound in Morocco or Tree Calf.

"Winston's Modern Steam Practice and Engineering."

Kyle's "Collection of Scottish Lyric Gems."

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, November 18, 1885. 2003

NOTICE.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

including—

FRENCH AND ENGLISH DOLLS.

SINGING AND CRYING DOLLS.

MOVING FIGURES.

PICTURE BOOKS.

OUT-DOOR GAMES.

FUNNY PUZZLES.

TAKE-DOWNS AND SHUTTLE-COCKS.

Mechanical Toys.

COOKING UTENSILS.

DOLL'S HOUSES AND FURNITURE.

DOLL'S PERAMBULATORS.

KALEIDOSCOPES.

CARTS AND WAGONS.

Hobby HORSES.

Rocking HORSES.

SWINGING HORSES.

VELOCIPEDES.

MUSICAL TOYS.

TOYS AND GUNS.

COOKING UTENSILS.

DOLL'S HOUSES AND FURNITURE.

DOLL'S PERAMBULATORS.

KALEIDOSCOPES.

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CARTS AND WAGONS.

Hobby HORSES.

Rocking HORSES.

SWINGING HORSES.

VELOCIPEDES.

MUSICAL TOYS.

THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 6974—DECEMBER 3, 1885.

For Sale.

MACEWEN, FRICKEL & CO.
VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

HAVE JUST LANDED.
THE FOLLOWING

STORES.

York HAMS.
Stilton CHEESE.
Pudding RAISINS (Valencias).
CURRANTS (Patras).

MINCEMEAT.
CHRISTMAS CAKES.
FIGS.
ALMONDS and RAISINS.

Brazil NUTS.
Soft-Shell ALMONDS.
Metz FRUITS.
Crystallized FRUITS.

FRUITS in Syrups.
Imperial PLUMS.
Plum PUDDINGS.
COSAQUES

CALIFORNIA PRODUCTS.
CONDENSED MILK.
KEROSENE LAMPS.
FAIRBANK'S SCALES.
COOKING STOVES.
PARLOUR STOVES.

—0—

THE USUAL ASSORTMENT
of

OILMAN'S STORES,

AND WINES,

at the

Lowest Possible Prices
FOR CASH.

MACEWEN, FRICKEL & CO.
Hongkong, December 1, 1885. 2084

INSURANCES.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.
(FIRE AND LIFE)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STEELING.
THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE of Buildings or on Goods stored therein or Goods on board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

**ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.,
Agents, Hongkong & Canton.**
Hongkong, January 4, 1887. 100

NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Under-signed are prepared to accept Risks on First Class Godowns at 1 per cent, net premium per annum.

NORTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 19, 1881. 932

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Under-signed, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & CO.

Hongkong, January 1, 1882. 14

THE LON. ON INSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF His Majesty King George The First, A.D. 1720.

THE Under-signed having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurance as follows:

Marine Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLIDAY, WISE & CO.

Hongkong, July 25, 1872. 498

SINGAPORE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—SINGAPORE.

WE are prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE on usual terms at Current Rates.

All Contributors of business, whether Shareholders or not, are entitled to Shares in the Bonus.

ADAMSON, BILL & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, July, 1885. • 1339

Notices to Consignees.

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, HAMBURG, SINGAPORE & MANILA.

THE S.S. "Normandie," Captain DRAKE, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk, into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained. Optional Cargo will be forwarded, unless notice to the contrary be given before 5 p.m. To-day, the 20th instant.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 7th December will be subject to rent.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left our Godowns.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SIEMSEN & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, November 30, 1885. 2079

STEAMSHIP "IRAOUADDY."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamships "Gange, Inveray and Mart," from London, Antwerp, Bremen and Havre, in connection with the above Agents, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Oil, Wine, Fruits and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risk at the Company's Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless intimation is received from the Consignees before 10 a.m. To-day (Monday), requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Monday, the 7th December, at Noon, will be subject to rent, and landing charges at 1 cent, per package per diem.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or before Thursday, the 10th December, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, December 2, 1885. 2093

Mails.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,

COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ,

POIT SAID,

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS,

NAPLES, MARSEILLES, AND PORTS

OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA;

AZORES,

LE HAVRE, DUNKIRK,

LONDON AND ANTWERP.

The Co.'s Steamship

"Hector,"

Captain BAX, will be

despatched as above TO-

MORROW, the 4th instant, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWINE

Agents.

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2098

THE CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA VIA AMOY.

The Co.'s Steamship

"Tabor,"

Captain Tabor, will be

despatched for the above

Ports on MONDAY, the 7th instant, at

5 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & CO.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2100

STEAM TO BOMBAY VIA STRAITS.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s

Steamship

"Sumatra,"

will leave for the above

places on SATURDAY, the 12th instant,

at 2 p.m.

A. MOYER,

Superintendent,

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2101

'BEN' LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

The Steamship

"Benedict,"

Captain Waring, will be

despatched as above on

or about the 13th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2102

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP INDEPENDENT, FROM ANTWERP, BOEDOEUX AND

SAIGON.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby re-

quested to send in their Bills of

Lading to the Undersigned for counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the

Steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no

Fire Insurance will be effected.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on to JAPAN, unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon To-day, 3rd December.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 10th instant, or they will not be recognised.

RUSSELL & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2099

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP INDEPENDENT, FROM ANTWERP, BOEDOEUX AND

SAIGON.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby re-

quested to send in their Bills of

Lading to the Undersigned for counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the

Steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no

Fire Insurance will be effected.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on to JAPAN, unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon To-day, 3rd December.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned immediately, or they will not be recognised.

MELCHERS & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, December 3, 1885. 2103

NOTICE.

THE Steamship "W.H. YOUNG" will

RUN regularly between HONGKONG

AND CANTON EVERY SUNDAY, TUES-

DAY AND THURSDAY, at 5.30 p.m.,

commencing on SUNDAY, the 6th instant.

The British steamer "Hector" reports:

Left Amoy 5 p.m. December 1st; had a</p

THE CHINA MAIL.

elasticity of the revenue; but the elasticity of the Police expenditure appears to be more clearly demonstrated year by year. According to the principle laid down by Mr Ryrie, the only way to meet that expenditure is to go on increasing the house tax. Even that, however, is objected to. Perhaps the unlimited increase of the municipal rates would be regarded by many residents as preferable to a Spirit Farm; but surely this could not have been what was meant by the 'elasticity of the revenue.' Two things are quite clear: firstly, that money for public purposes must be raised when required; and secondly, that the general revenue must ever be liable to supplement the amounts raised by special taxes when these fall short of actual requirements.

TELEGRAMS.

(Via Southern Line.)

THE BURMESE WAR.

LONDON, 2nd December.
The British Expeditionary Force has occupied Mandalay without fighting.

King Theebaw has surrendered, unconditionally.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

OUTWARD BOUND.—Oucheng, Sept. 22; France, Sept. 29; Bordeaux, Oct. 2; Peron, Oct. 13; Oxfordshire, Agamemnon, Nov. 13; Lennox, Olong Po, Nov. 17; Flushing, Nuremberg, November 20; Glenarney, Messen, Bangkok, Dec. 1; Billerbeck, Cardigan Bay, Yongte, Ascalon, Orontes, Dec. 1.

HOMeward Bound.—Stralsund, Oct. 27; Canton, Oct. 30; Devonia, Nov. 6; Gheza, Nov. 13; Djennah, Glamorganshire, Cyclops, Glenry, Menelaus, Ozus, Mexico, Nov. 27.

The next ENGLISH MAIL, per the P. & O. Co.'s steamer Mirapore, left Singapore for this port on the 25th ult., and may be expected here on or about the 4th Dec.

The next AMERICAN MAIL, per the O. & O. steamer *Glencairn*, left Yokohama for this port on Thursday, the 3rd instant, at daylight, and may be expected here on or about Wednesday, the 9th inst.

The steamship *Partisan*, left Singapore for this port on the 25th ult., and is now due.

The Bon Line steamer *Benedict*, from London and Antwerp, left Singapore for this port on the 3rd inst., and may be expected here on or about the 10th inst.

The E. & A. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Auris*, left Sydney for this port on the 25th ult., and is expected here on or about the 20th inst.

The Austrian Gunboat *Nestorius*, from Singapore via Deli arrived at Penang during the 10th ultmo en route to Rangoon.

SIR Robert Jardine, we learn, has been returned as Member of Parliament for Dumfriesshire, by a majority of 1200 votes. Sir Robert is a Liberal.

THE Tai-tam Tuk murder case, the hearing of which before Mr MacLean at the Police Court had been fixed for this afternoon, has been postponed until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

MESSES Gibb, Livingston & Co. inform us that the steamship *Benedict*, from London and Antwerp, left Singapore to-day for this port en route to Kobe and Yokohama.

We are requested to publish the following:—The members of the Hongkong Sketching Club will be happy to see their friends at St. Andrew's Hall to-morrow, Friday, the 4th inst., from 3 p.m. till dusk.

The Agent of the O. & O. Co. informs us that the Company's steamship *Glencairn*, with San Francisco mails to the 10th ultmo, has arrived at Yokohama and sailed for this port this morning.

LOD Ranelagh, ne Thomas Heron Jones, whose death is announced in an Indian telegram published in another column, was one of the oldest Irish peers. He was born in 1812, and succeeded to the title in 1850.

A full report of the larger and more important portion of the discussion on the Municipal Rates Ordinance which took place at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council will be found on our fourth page.

We learn that the Mascotte Opera Company, on the completion of their season in Shanghai at the end of this month, will proceed to Manila, where a syndicate of gentlemen have guaranteed them profitable terms. We wish them much success.

The case which we mentioned last night, in which a hawk named Trang Afuk caused a man named Wong A On, and another not in custody, with assaulting him by tying him up to a tree and beating him, and robbing him of \$1 in silver near To Kwa Wan, Kowloon, was brought before Mr MacLean yesterday. The complainant made a short statement to the above effect, and the case was then remanded for a week.

We note from late Australian papers that the great racing event in the Colonies, the Melbourne Cup, was won after one of the most keenly contested races ever witnessed, by Sheatanchor, in one second less time than it has ever been run before. The race, a two-mile distance, was run in 1861, when the time taken was 3 minutes 53 seconds. Sheat Anchor covered the distance in 3 minutes 20 seconds, a remarkable achievement.

AGAIN the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company are confronted with opposition in the traffic between here and Canton. As will be seen from our advertising columns, the British steamer *Wah Yung* will run regularly between here and Canton, three times a week, commencing next Sunday. Messrs Arnold, Karberg & Co. will act as agents at Canton. The *Wah Yung* is a screw steamer, of 313 tons, built a year or two ago for the trade between here and Hoihow and Paitchou, on which line she has been running since she was completed. She is owned by Chinese, and commanded by Captain Witt.

THE second smoking concert of the season was given by the Hongkong Artillery Volunteers at the Headquarters, yesterday evening, when there was present a good number of the effective, several honorary members and a few friends from the R. A. and R. E. Sergeants' Messes. Major Tripp occupied the chair, and the other officers present were Lieuts. Woolley, McAllum and Moul. A highly popular programme of songs and recitations was gone through, encores being frequent, and the choruses being joined in with great heartiness. Below we give the programme. The recitation by Mr Rawlinson was very well delivered, and elicited a loud roar of applause. In response Mr Rawlinson recited the 'Light Brigade' in very good style. The members hope to see and hear Mr Rawlinson often in the same role. Mr Dade was again very amusing in his rollicking Irish ditties, and sang them in his usual clever style. Mr G. H. Swales also acquitted himself with his usual success and in addition to the songs on the programme, was called upon for the 'Powerful Monkey.' The Hon. P. Ryrie, who was present as an honorary member, was called upon for a sword dance, which he very naturally gave in his best style. Dr Lochhead also assisted in making the evening a pleasant one by singing 'MacGregor's Gathering.' The success of these meetings is evidently assured.

SONGS.—*'The Old Friends'*—Dr. Swales. —*'Mary'*—Egypt Miles. —*'Demot McPig'*—Dr. Dade. —*'Bay of Fundy'*—Mr. Atkin. —*'A Moon behind the Clouds'*—Dr. Morden. —*'Drinking, Dancing'*—Dr. Morden. —*'Come to the First Spring'*—Mr. Clarke. —*'Recitation... The Light Brigade'*—Mr. Rawlinson. —*'Loved and Envied'*—Corp. Lamerton. —*'Song'*—*'The Old Friends'*—Dr. Swales.

SONG.—*'The Old Friends'*—Dr. Swales. —*'Mary'*—Egypt Miles. —*'Demot McPig'*—Dr. Dade. —*'Bay of Fundy'*—Mr. Atkin. —*'A Moon behind the Clouds'*—Dr. Morden. —*'Drinking, Dancing'*—Dr. Morden. —*'Come to the First Spring'*—Mr. Clarke. —*'Recitation... The Light Brigade'*—Mr. Rawlinson. —*'Loved and Envied'*—Corp. Lamerton. —*'Song'*—*'The Old Friends'*—Dr. Swales.

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SONG.—*'*

THE MUNICIPAL RATES ORDINANCE.

The following is a full report of the discussion which took place in the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon, on the provisions of the Municipal Rates Ordinance, from the point where the Attorney General intimated that the Government intended to increase the Police Rate on the City of Victoria from 8*½*, as fixed in the first draft of the Ordinance, to 9*½*, and that the rate for Victoria Peak, Quarry Bay and Pokfulam was to be 8*½*, and on all other places in the Colony 7 per cent.:-

Hon. P. Ryrie.—Why do we have this increased rate; it appears to me that we are going on increasing our Police taxes every year.

The Colonial Treasurer.—It is not an increased rate; it is the same as the present rate.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—Well, I should like to know how many police are detached to supervise that sugar refinery? (I should say very few indeed)—and how many are required to keep order in the village of Shaukiwan.

In sketching this Bill it was lowered a half per cent in view of the expected Spirit Farm. It was expected that the revenue which would be derived from the Spirit Farm would allow these rates—admittedly high—to be lowered by one-half per cent. In fact I hoped to have them come back to 12 per cent, which they were before, if not lower, but the Spirit Farm having been postponed, it was absolutely necessary that the money should be raised somehow, and even now this 8*½* per cent will not cover the expenses.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—That is a wrong thing to do. You collect the rate to pay certain expenses—Police and Water Rate, &c., and you apply it to another purpose.

The Colonial Treasurer.—No, it will not cover the expenditure it is collected for.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—How is our Police expenditure paid?

The Colonial Treasurer.—It was in all the papers at the beginning of the session.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—The Spirit Tax was intended to meet the interest on the loan, and now you are going to increase the Police Rate because there is some delay in the Spirit Farm Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer.—Not at all.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—It was 8*½*.

The Colonial Treasurer.—Quite so; we thought we could afford to lose on the Police Rate.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—But that is wrong legislation, certainly. If a tax is imposed to meet special expenditure it should be made to meet that expenditure.

The Colonial Treasurer.—That is an open question. We thought that we could afford to have a loss on the Police Rate if we had the Spirit Farm.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—I have never heard that brought forward in this Council before.

The Colonial Treasurer.—Anyhow, that is the explanation. The rate was admittedly high, and it was thought it might be reduced. We have been losing heavily on the Police Rate for years, and shall lose still, because, as he has pointed out before, it makes no provision for police superannuation and building of stations, nothing but the bare daily working of the police, and the 8*½* per cent will not cover that.

Still in view of the hardship inflicted upon the poor of Hongkong by those heavy rates, it was thought we might meet this loss on the Police Rate out of the proceeds of the Spirit Farm, as it has been met out of the proceeds of other taxation. The Spirit Farm having been postponed, we must try to make the Police Rate pay the expenses as much as is possible.

The Chief Justice—it seems to me that a great portion of the police expenses ought to be paid out of the general revenue, and not fall upon any particular point. For instance, I think the expenses of the Water Police should fall upon the shipping of the harbour.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—This is the first time this has come before the Council. It has not been brought before us until now that the rate does not meet the police expenditure, and I think we should have some statement to show that it does not.

His Excellency.—Does the hon. member propose an amendment?

Hon. P. Ryrie made a remark to the effect that he could not find a seconder, and added—I merely state the view I take, and that I cannot support the section. What is the assessment at Quarry Bay?

The Colonial Treasurer.—I concur tell.

The clause was thus passed.

On section 24, which provided that rates not paid on the due date might be recovered in the Supreme Court, together with interest at the rate of twelve per cent.

Hon. T. Jackson drew attention to the rate of interest, which he described as antiquated. He said twelve per cent was at one time the current rate of interest, but it was now seven per cent.

The Colonial Treasurer.—It is antiquated, no doubt, but it is very desirable people should not be allowed to large arrears of rates. I don't know any way in which the Government can loss a large sum of money more expeditiously than by allowing arrears of rates to accumulate. If they once get into arrears they never can be collected. A few years ago, when a new Treasurer was appointed and the Crown Solicitor was in bad health, in a number of cases the rates got into arrears, and some of the amounts—\$2,00 or \$3,000 as far as I recollect—have not yet been collected and never will be. The

Colonial Treasurer.—I would beg also to remind my hon. friend that the figures were most fully placed before the Council at the beginning of the Session. A memorandum drawn up by myself was placed before the Council which showed that if the Police Rate was increased one per cent as proposed, it would not cover the expenses of extra police stations, superannuations and pensions. The one per cent brings a little over \$30,000. That paper was circulated and printed in the newspapers.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—I do not recollect that that in that racing the lotholders of Kowloon are very hardly treated. They do not get the value for the money they represent. I also think that Quarry Bay is very heavily rated. You only charge five per cent for the village just beyond it (Shaukiwan), which is filled with a most troublesome population.

The Colonial Treasurer.—Seven per cent. Hon. P. Ryrie—I thought it was five. Well, say, seven per cent. Why should the village of Shaukiwan be exempt from a portion of what Quarry Bay has to pay? It is filled with the most troublesome characters in this Colony. They give the police a great deal more trouble than the sugar refinery at Quarry Bay, which has its own watchmen, and I believe takes care of itself very well. I think it is most unfair.

The Attorney-General—I think it would be very undesirable if the Council should proceed to oppose this Section and the amendment without something more than the insertion offered by the hon. member to the Kowloon lotholders—that it is unfair. The object of the proposal is to deal fairly with them, having regard to their interests and to those of the ratepayers in general. If the hon. member thinks that they are unfairly dealt with, and can suggest any alternative scheme, I am prepared to put it before the Council, and support it if you agree.

Hon. T. Jackson—I think it a pity the Government should try to make anything like twelve per cent. It seems a horrid squeeze. If the amount could possibly be reduced I think it ought to be.

The Attorney-General—I would point out that this is no new proposal. In Ordinance 12 of 1876 the same rate of interest is fixed.

The ground for the suggestion which has been made is that the rate of interest has changed.

Hon. T. Jackson.—The value of money has gone down. Nine per cent is as much now as twelve per cent was then.

The Attorney-General.—As the Ordinance of that day fixed the interest at the current rate, I think we should do the same.

The section was amended by substituting eight per cent for twelve per cent.

on a different scale from Kowloon, and we put the whole of Kowloon upon a common footing. It would hardly be fair to put the whole of the outlying districts of the colony on the same footing as those two places. The question is, should we place Quarry Bay on the same footing as Shaukiwan, or put it rather upon the same sort of footing as Pokfulam and Victoria, where you have a considerable amount of property and wealth. It seems fairer to put it in the latter category than the former. Of course the question is open to argument, but I should say it is a fair distinction to draw. Where you have a very poor, purely Chinese population, as in the Shaukiwan district, you should draw a distinction between them and places where you have a large admixture of Europeans, and a large amount of wealth.

Hon. P. Ryrie.—You are taxing Quarry Bay more than Shaukiwan?

The Colonial Treasurer.—Yes.

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On clause 25, providing that the rates should be applied in payment of the police establishment, of the expenses connected with lighting the City of Victoria, in maintaining the water works, and in maintaining the Fire Brigade.

The Chief Justice said that in the old Ordinance it was provided the rates should not exceed certain amounts. Now that provision was done away with and the Council might fix the rates at any figure they thought proper, this section appeared unnecessary, as the rate might be fixed at a higher figure than was necessary for the services mentioned.

The Attorney-General proposed to leave the section out.

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